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Edward A. Flynn
Secretary

I am pleased to inform you that your municipality is eligible to receive \$12,820 in FFY 2004 Homeland Security funds for Local Preparedness. Funding for this grant award has been provided to Massachusetts by the Federal Department of Homeland Security, Office of Domestic Preparedness. The Local Preparedness program is one component of our overall Homeland Security strategy. Your grant award is to be used for activities consistent with this strategy.

The Commonwealth is among the first states to receive approval of its State Homeland Security Strategy (SHSS). Federal guidelines mandate that each state define its strategic vision, goals and objectives that will guide how the state will work in partnership with federal, regional, local and private sector entities to enhance capabilities to detect, prevent, respond to and manage the consequences of acts of terrorism and other critical incidents. Federal funding must be utilized to implement the goals and objectives defined in the strategy. The Commonwealth's strategy focuses on the following five goals.

- Goal #1 – The Commonwealth will enhance its ability to assess risk and prevent future terrorist attacks or critical incidents.
- Goal #2 – The Commonwealth will improve its ability to collect, analyze, disseminate and manage key information.
- Goal #3 – The Commonwealth will improve preparedness by enhancing regional coordination.
- Goal #4 – The Commonwealth will improve the ability of first responders to communicate at the scene of a terrorist attack or other critical incident.
- Goal #5 – The Commonwealth will improve its ability to recover from a terrorist attack or other critical incident.

Based on priorities identified by municipalities, and the results of a comprehensive threat, vulnerability and risk assessment we have determined that the vast majority of the FFY 2004 funding will be used to support regional efforts to improve radio system interoperability and to support other regional homeland security related planning, operational, equipment acquisition and training related activities. For more details on the overall funding allocations, please see the summary provided on our funding web site (link provided below).

The Local Preparedness portion of the funding will be provided directly to each locality **on a reimbursement basis** to support your local homeland security efforts. You have the option of either funding local priorities with this grant, or combining your local preparedness funds with those of other localities to accomplish regional goals.

To receive your grant award, you must submit an application cover sheet, proposal and budget. Complete instructions for finalizing your award are available at our funding web site, www.state.ma.us/ccj/hls_04.htm . **We can reimburse only for costs incurred after you receive notification from us that the grant has been finalized.** Documents available on our funding web site that will be helpful to you include the following:

- Commonwealth of Massachusetts State Homeland Security Strategy
- Approved Homeland Security regions
- Local Preparedness Grant Application Instructions for FFY 2004
- Local Preparedness Grant Proposal Narrative Guide
- Local Preparedness Grant budget

I look forward to receiving your proposal and to working with you on the important challenge of improving the homeland security of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. If you have any questions about this grant program, please contact Jeffrey Brownell at (617) 727-6300 x25325. You can also send questions via email to hsgrants@state.ma.us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edward A. Flynn". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Edward A. Flynn
Secretary of Public Safety